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Federal Way, WA 98003

MAY 21 1993

May 19, 1993

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Children's TV M.M. Docket No. 93-48
Secretary, Federal Communications
Commission

Room 222, 1919 M St. N.W.
Washington DC 20554

Dear Secretary,

After 23 years as an elementary school librarian, and now as a grandmother of five, I have many concerns about television for children. I have seen great deterioration in both content and quality over the years, and can't help believing that this deterioration plays a part in the decline we see in educational achievement and the increase in juvenile lawlessness and violence.

I recognize that TV is in no way the only cause, nor the chief cause. But it is an element over which society can wield some

control. It is shameful that we have not done so & will be inexcusable if we continue to default on our responsibilities.

I want to see a reversal
in the frequency of ^{VIOLENT} ~~the~~ violent acts

World." To count shows like "The Flintstones" as educational programming is obscene.

Finally, since the networks + cable companies want to use our airwaves, I'd like to require them ~~to~~ to frequently air public service announcements that teach parents about the ill effects on children of watching too many hours of television, educational or not: the bad effect on reading, on physical ~~fit~~ fitness, on obesity, and probably on attitudes toward school.

Please don't miss this opportunity to turn things around, as regards TV for kids. You have it in your power to make an important difference for our nation's future.

Sincerely,
Eva C. Peak

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Childrens TV MM Docket # 93-48 /
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M. St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

As a parent of three children ages 10, 7 and 4, I am concerned about what my children watch on television. They know not to watch cartoons with a lot of violence. But what concerns me, is the fact they can be watching a childs cartoon show and the commercials shown are for adult "sit coms" or "R" rated movies.

These commercials always depict "sex" or "violence". Is there any control for what type of commercials are shown during childrens shows?

If not, what can be done?

Sincerely,

Susan Drange
531 Whitten way
Placentia, CA 92670

MAY 13, 1993

17 May 1993

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MAY 21 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

Children's TV MM Docket No. 93-48
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M. St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

Sirs:

I want to make some comments about the quality of today's television programming for children.

I commend the FCC for taking a close look at what is appearing on today's TV programming on a daily basis. As a parent, I am continually amazed at what I see and hear on television. I am definitely of the opinion that children are affected by what they see and hear on television. There are many voices in the world who would have us believe otherwise, but they are misguided and usually self-serving interests promoting their own interests in the media of TV.

Television could be such an educating tool for children and, indeed, for all people watching. There is nothing served by (1) pornography, (2) the use of God's name in vain, (3) material that is prejudicial against particular groups of people or particular countries, (4) violence involving weapons of any kind, (5) homosexual material whether real or implied, (6) vulgar language of any kind, (7) sexually explicit or scenes and text that encourage promiscuity especially among young people, (8) use of any material dealing with drugs and the drug culture, (9) use of ~~material~~ centered around gang-life and the list could go on.

Why can't we see wholesome television for family viewing which would not be uncomfortable for any age watching. Why must we continue to have this barage of material that must be censored by concerned parents at every turn? Why can't we see actors communicating without the use of "put-downs" or ugly language? Why can't we see material/scripts about normal every-day family living rather than the various sorted material we see involving dis-functional families and other strange lifestyles? Why ~~must~~ ^{must} our children see the TV material presented as if it is "normal" and encourage them to adopt such strange lifestyles and abandon what their parents are aiming to pass on to them?

Recently I was called by NBC broadcasting to take part in a previewing of a show on a cable channel in our area. I inquired as to the nature of the material and was told the caller had no idea. I noted we had two children ages 10 and 16 in the home. I reluctantly agreed to preview the show on the appointed date. Letters followed addressed to each person in our household reminding us to tune in at the appointed time.

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We did tune in as instructed. I was appalled to hear the first few words uttered on the program----"lesbian and orgasm" and not just a few times but several times. Needless to say, the program was turned off and I was very disappointed with NBC for the way they called and would not prepare us for the material in the program. Had I been told in the beginning what we were going to watch, I would NEVER have agreed. My opinion of NBC and of television broadcasting has taken another turn for the worse!!

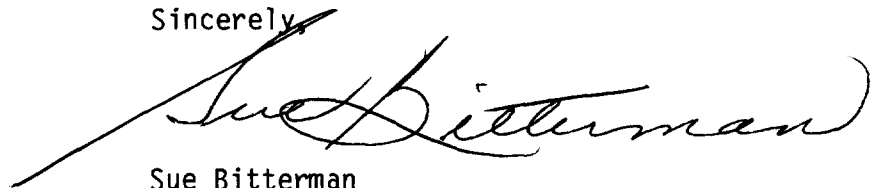
In my opinion, words like "orgasm" have absolutely no place on our television screens. If some wish to view such material they can go to a movie theatre or some sleazy book shop and do so. What comes into our homes should be censored to a higher level. I fear that television is fast approaching a level of pornography if it is not restricted soon.

In our home we have "blocked" MTV from coming into the home entirely. Music videos are unfit for family viewing. The balance of what is left to watch that is considered "Okay for family viewing" is about 15% of what is left. As parents we have come to feel more like the policemen of television than anything else.

As much as I hope for serious and significant changes on television, I fear the self-serving interests of advertisers will be the voices that are most listened to. Perhaps there is no way to curb the onslaught of disgusting television material except to turn it off entirely. Yet, we remind ourselves that we live in a wonderful part of the world and in a country where the TV medium should be able to have a significant influence for good in our lives and in the lives of our children. But does anyone in authority over television, such as the FCC, and families themselves have the courage and will to take such hard initiative and make real changes? I sincerely hope it is possible to police television in a better way, but somehow I fear it will not happen.

I trust my remarks will be read and understood as a concerned parent in America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sue Bitterman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sue Bitterman

3527 Shallow Creek Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95404